

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ADDIS 12188 090744Z

17/44

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 IO-13 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /086 W

----- 054743

R 081251Z DEC 76 CORRECTED COPY FOR MRN

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1950

INFO AMEMBASSYHCAIRO

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 12188

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MRN SHD READ 12188 VICE 2188)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UNGA HS XA

SUBJ: ROK MISSION TO ETHIOPIA

REF: SEOUL 9412

1. ROKG MOFA INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND TREATIES
BUREAU DIRECTOR CHUNG U-YONG CALLED ON CHARGE DEC. 6, AC-
COMPANIED BY LORIENA AMBASSADOR PAK JUN HA. CHUNG WAS
ACTIVELY SEEKING POSITIVE STEPS THAT KOREA COULD TAKE TO
IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH ETHIOPIA AND OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES.
HE WAS CONCERNED THAT STANDPAT ATTITUDE VIS-A-VIS AVOWEDLY
SOCIALIST ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT WAS NOT HELPFUL TO
ROK'S INTERNATIONAL POSITION, BUT AT SAME TIME ROK WAS
RELUCTANT TO INSTITUTE ADI OR OTHER MEASURES WITH NO
TANGIBLE RETURN FROM ETHIOPIAN SIDE. HE POINTED OUT THAT
EPMG HAD CONSISTENTLY SUPPORTED NORTH KOREAN POSITION ON
UN RESOLUTION IN RECENT YEARS, AND THAT NORTH KOREA
HAD SIGNED AGREEMENT WITH ETHIOPIA IN SEPTEMBER TO
PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ON IRRIGATION, EXPANSION
OF HYDROELECTRIC FACILITIES, AND DAM CONSTRUCTION.
GIVEN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, ROK WAS PERPLEXED AS TO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ADDIS 12188 090744Z

WHICH DIRECTION TO GO.

2. CHARGE ASSURED CHUNG THAT ROK WAS NOT ONLY COUNTRY THAT IS PERPLEXED, BUT THEN WENT ON TO EXPLAIN WHY US BELIEVES THAT POLICY OF RELATIVE CONSTANCY WAS BEST COURSE FOR PRESENT, GIVEN FACT THAT A GENUINE REVOLUTION WAS TAKING PLACE IN ETHIOPIA, THAT THIS REVOLUTION WAS STILL IN ITS EARLY STAGES, AND THAT UNTIL TRIAL AND ERROR PERIOD CURRENTLY TAKING PLACE IS COMPLETED, IT IS DIFFICULT TO PREDICT EXACT COURSE WHICH EPMG WOULD TAKE IN SOLVING ITS DOMESTIC PROBLEMS AND IN ITS INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. PUBLIC TRAPPINGS OF SOCIALISM WERE OFTEN IRRITATING TO US AND OTHER WESTERN GOVERNMENTS, BUT LIMITATIONS OF COMMUNIST COUNTRIES IN PROVIDING GENUINE ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA WERE REAL, AND THIS FACT WOULD PRESUMABLY DAWN UPON EPMG LEADERS EVENTUALLY. MEANWHILE THERE APPEARED TO BE GROWING DISENCHANTMENT WITHIN THIRD WORLD WITH HEAVY-HANDED NORTH KOREAN TACTICS AT NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN COLOMBO AND ELSEWHERE, AND THIS FACT MIGHT ALSO HAVE EFFECTS IN FUTURE ON EPMG ATTITUDE.

3. CHUNG INDICATED THAT BILATERAL TRADE WAS GROWING AT HEALTHY RATE, AND HE IMPLIED THAT ROK SEEKING SOME USEFUL PROJECT IN FIELD OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION AS MEANS OF RESTORING RELATIONSHIP WITH EPMG CLOSER TO THAT WHICH EXISTED IN POST-KOREAN WAR DAYS. AMBASSADOR PAK WAS LESS OPTIMISTIC, ALTHOUGH HE HAD RECEIVED VAGUE REASSURANCES FROM PMAC POLITICAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BERHANU BAYEH DURING CONVERSATION IN SEPTEMBER. BOTH WERE DUBIOUS ABOUT US POLICY OF RESTRAINT, CLAIMING THAT US SHOULD BE ABLE TO EXERT GREATER INFLUENCE ON COURSE OF ETHIOPIAN EVENTS, GIVER HEAVY ETHIOPIAN DEPENDENCE UPON US MILITARY ASSISTANCE. IN CLOSING, CHUNG MADE IT QUITE CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT DESPITE UNCERTAINTIES OF THE PRESENT, ROK HAD NO IMMEDIATE INTENTION OF CHANGING ITS PRESENT RELATIONSHIP WITH EPMG, BUT WOULD LIKE TO FIND WAYS TO STRENGTHEN IT. TIENKEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ADDIS12188
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760454-0920
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761260/aaaabzls.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 SEOUL 9412
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <14 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROK MISSION TO ETHIOPIA
TAGS: PFOR, KS, XA, UNGA, (CHUNG U-YONG)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006